

Received & Inspected

APR 19 2011

FCC Mail Room

April 8, 2011
351 Redwood Heights Rd.
Aptos, CA 95003

To: Federal Communications Commission
Fr: Marilyn Garrett
Re: Connect America Fund; Developing a Unified Inter-carrier
Compensation. WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109; GN
Docket No. 09-51; CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45; FCC 11-13
Re: Need to maintain existing landlines.

We are told that we live in a democracy and that our Constitution and government officials are required to protect the public health and safety of all. However, the proposed removal of landlines and the universal imposition of wireless microwave radiation emitting phones and related technology is contrary to fundamental democratic and health rights. Many people in other countries aspire to such treasured human rights. These freedoms must be respected in our own country. Therefore, we urge the FCC to maintain the existing landline system.

According to the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board ("the Access Board"), that is the federal agency that administers the Americans with Disabilities Act, an estimated 3% of the population [or more], or almost 10 million Americans, have electromagnetic sensitivities (<http://www.access-board.gov/research/ieq/intro.cfm>). These individuals cannot use wireless technology and have difficulty using computers. They depend on the switched [landline] telephone network for voice communication. "Universal Service" is not universal if it excludes 10 million people. Eliminating landlines will leave millions of Americans without even basic telephone service.

I depend on a landline for my communication needs because I experience radio wave sickness and cannot use a cell phone due to painful symptoms (see attached flyer

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entitled: "Symptoms of Electrohypersensitivity or Radio Wave Sickness"). Symptoms of exposure were observed in me during a scientific test by an M.D. Therefore, I belong to this group of at least 10 million Americans who have become functionally impaired. It is unacceptable and undemocratic to force debilitating microwave wireless technology on millions of people who cannot tolerate this technology due to their medical conditions. It is like pushing the wheelchair bound off a cliff. Deaths are likely to result.

Enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), our health, and our democratic rights and halt the landline removal process now. As scientist Amy Worthington states, "Science from the 1940s to present has demonstrated conclusively the harmful effects of microwave radiation – the platform upon which the entire wireless universe – cell phones, text messaging, WiFi, WiMax and RFID - is built." Exposure to electromagnetic radiation has been documented to have major biological effects on living tissue. More than 2000 scientific studies have shown that RF exposures, including microwaves, can result in DNA breaks, chromosome aberrations, cell stress, cell death including death of brain neurons, premature aging, memory loss, retarded learning, ADD, performance impairment in children, headaches, chronic fatigue, sleep disorders, reduction in melatonin secretion, heart rhythm disorder, heart attacks, strokes, epilepsy, leukemia, hearing nerve tumors, brain tumors and cancers. www.emf2009.no, www.turn.org, www.emfsafetynetwork.org, www.yourownhealthandfitness.org, <http://eon3emfblog.net>, www.emf.mercola.com.

"Catastrophic consequences to not following scientific warnings are abundant historically and today. Witness 3-11-11 Fukushima and other nuclear power disasters. Immediately stop this proposed ADA violation and keep landline phones available for all.

Public health must be prioritized and preserved over the corporate profits that reside at the root of this plan.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Garrett

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marilyn Garrett". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name "Marilyn Garrett".

cc: Members of the Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors, State Senators Joe Simitian and Sam Blakesley, Assemblyman Bill Monning

Symptoms of Electrohypersensitivity or Radio Wave Sickness =====

Neurological: headaches, dizziness, nausea, difficulty concentrating, memory loss, irritability, depression, anxiety, insomnia, fatigue, weakness, tremors, muscle spasms, numbness, tingling, altered reflexes, muscle and joint pain, leg/foot pain, flu-like symptoms, fever. More severe reactions can include seizures, paralysis, psychosis and stroke.

Cardiac: palpitations, arrhythmias, pain or pressure in the chest, low or high blood pressure, slow or fast heart rate, shortness of breath

Respiratory: sinusitis, bronchitis, pneumonia, and asthma

Dermatological: skin rash, itching, burning, and facial flushing

Ophthalmologic: pain or burning in the eyes, pressure in/behind the eyes, deteriorating vision, floaters, and cataracts

Others: digestive problems; abdominal pain; enlarged thyroid, testicular/ovarian pain; dryness of lips, tongue, mouth, eyes; great thirst; dehydration; nosebleeds; internal bleeding; altered sugar metabolism; immune abnormalities; redistribution of metals within the body; hair loss; pain in the teeth; deteriorating fillings; impaired sense of smell; ringing in the ears.

Between three percent and 35 percent of the population may have symptoms of EHS according to *The Power Watch Handbook* by Alasdair and Jean Philips.

Common Sources of Radio Waves (wired & wireless) =====

Outdoors: broadcast and cell phone antennas, radar, cell phones, pagers, two-way radios, Wi-Fi antennas

Indoors: cordless telephones and their base units, wireless computers and their wireless routers, wired computers, televisions, microwave ovens, dimmer switches, security systems, remote controls, fax machines, answering machines, assistive listening systems and devices for the hearing impaired, wireless microphones, variable speed motors, transformers, child monitors, electric utility smart meters, signal- broadcasting smoke alarms, some electronic games . . .

Vehicles: CB radios, ignition systems, spark plugs, alternator, mobile radar units; electric trains and subways, wiring in airplanes.

Source of symptoms: "No Place To Hide" vol. 3, no. 1, April 2001, "Special Issue on Russian and Ukrainian Research" by Arthur Firstenberg, Editor of The Cellular Phone Taskforce.

Are you sensitive to electromagnetic energy?

Those who suffer from electrohypersensitivity (EHS) have the following reactions to . . .

1) lighting in stores

- ☐ confusion and poor short-term memory, also called "brain fog", so they go shopping with list in hand and spend as little time in the store as possible. Some can't recall where they parked their car.
- ☐ headache that becomes progressively worse the more time they spend in the store
- ☐ dizziness, numbness, tremors, and other neurological disorders
- ☐ nausea or feeling unwell
- ☐ fatigue and weakness
- ☐ problems with vision and hearing (buzzing in ears)
- ☐ depression, anxiety, and other mood disorders

2) mobile phones (both cell phones and cordless phones)

- ☐ feeling of warmth
- ☐ numbness in fingers
- ☐ facial flushing on the side of the head where the phone is held
- ☐ headaches that become progressively worse and last longer with continued phone use
- ☐ eventually some cannot be in the same room when others are talking on a cell phone

3) some energy efficient light bulbs, especially compact fluorescent lights (CFL)

- ☐ headaches and other body aches
- ☐ confusion and memory loss, "brain fog"
- ☐ fatigue
- ☐ dizziness, nausea, feeling unwell
- ☐ eye problems including eye strain leading to dry eyes or watery eyes, problems with vision, tired eyes
- ☐ ringing in the ears (similar to tinnitus)
- ☐ skin problems including any combination of rashes, itchiness, blotchiness
- ☐ depression, anxiety, and other mood disorders

If you checked several categories above, you may be electromagnetically sensitive.

Those who suffer from EHS often associate their symptoms with aging or living a stressful life-style, which may be the case, but for EHS sufferers their symptoms become worse in environments with higher EMF exposure. The more sensitive a person becomes the faster they respond following electromagnetic exposure, the more extreme their reaction, and the longer it takes them to recover (return to "normal").